

KEIRA

September 2014

News



Great traditions, a confident future.

From the Principal

Congratulations to all members of our learning community for the fabulous learning outcomes achieved this term.

In particular, I want to highlight the success of our Year 12 students who have now completed all courses and are beginning rigorous patterns of study prior to the Higher School Certificate Examinations that begin in three weeks.

Our first newsletter of Term 4 will be dominated by a feast of photographs and reports of our Year 12 Graduation and Formal. Both these special moments were spectacular and I look forward to sharing them with you.

I wish Year 12 all the best wishes as they position themselves for the HSC examinations. I urge them to take care of themselves and also acknowledge those around them who will be supporting them during these critical weeks.



Mr D Robson
Principal

Special message for Year 12 from Ryan Park Member for Keira

Congratulations to Tori and all the students involved in the recent blood drive. As someone who is a regular blood donor I know how important it is to give regularly. I hope that all the students who donated will

do so again in the future. To come second in the state is very impressive achievement and one that you all as a school community can be very proud of.



Ryan Park MP Member for Keira with School Captain 2014 Tori Dyson

"I would also like to wish all those students who are completing their HSC all the very best of luck. To complete the NSW High School Certificate is an achievement you can be proud of. I am sure that the effort you put in during these challenging times will bode well throughout your future life and career. There will be times you think it is not all worth it – but the HSC will come to an end and if you give it your all, you will look back on this time of your life with great memories.

"I'm sure hard work, coupled with resolve and passion, will ensure your continued success. Best of luck"

Ryan Park MP
Member for Keira

Southern Stars

This year 20 students from years 8, 9 and 10 participated in Southern Stars. With the help of Mrs Mors, Mrs Matts, Mrs Tweddle, Mrs Williams and Miss Hicks, students were able to be a part of this arena spectacular. Hours of rehearsal went into one of the best shows so far. Our item was called 'Ain't it fun' and we can safely say it was. From all the students that were part of the performance, we would like to say a big thank you to the teachers, organisers and back stage crew that made the show possible.

Morgan Patrick

Year 10



#webelieve 2014

I would like to congratulate all the members of the Keira High School community who participated in Southern Stars this year.

The show was absolutely sensational and you should all be very proud of yourselves for your contributions to making Southern Stars such a success.

So to all our talented dancers, vocalists, teachers and parents, congratulations and thank you for your efforts.

Well done.

Barney Ellevsen
Deputy Principal



CREATIVE ARTS NEWS

PA night

An appreciative crowd gathered in the school hall for our annual celebration of performing arts. Audience members were treated to quality performances from our talented vocalists, actors, musicians and dancers. Thank you to our hardworking teachers and the students who put in so many hours rehearsing. We would also like to acknowledge LightSounds Wollongong for the terrific job they did in supplying light and sound for the event. *NOTE: (Ana Dimeska has photos- but she's on exams)*

Formal assemblies

Formal assemblies are currently held twice a year- recently the second assembly saw the launch of our whole school production, a fantastic performance from our dancers and many bronze awards handed out. Huge congratulations to Claudia Robinson of Year 12, who achieved her silver award. Students may obtain bronze through gaining ten copper merits in any one subject or through representing the school in events such as performance evenings. Keep this in mind and be ready for our next formal assembly, early Term 2 2015.

HSC exams

For students in CAPA, up to 80% of their HSC exams are now complete. Parents and families have supported, cajoled and comforted students as they completed artworks, rehearsed group and individual performances in both drama and music. Well done to all and we hope you get the results you deserve

HSC showcase

Parents and friends gathered in the library for this annual event which celebrates the achievements of HSC students in the practical component of subjects such as Design & Technology, Visual Arts, Music and Extension English.



A still from Alicia Digby's film 'To Sleep Perchance to Dream'



Eliza-Jane Liersch with her 'Hand Cut Harmony'



A detail of the work, which Eliza-Jane hand cut over many painstaking hours:



Phong Duong with his interchangeable desk/chair



Rachael Hardy's drawing 'Ag 30,698 Laethanta'



Rachel with her proud grandmother, the subject of the drawing



Jayde Gillen with her series of drawings 'Familia Reflections'



The intricate main drawing from Jayde Gillen's series 'Familia Reflections'



Jarryd Sweeney with his 4WD solar shower



Zac Keogh with his work station for wheelchair bound students



Lal Tuang Hatzaw with his computer desk



Eric Tahiri with his work 'Crematio'

Whole School Production

We are pleased to announce next year's whole school production '**SCREWGE**', an adaptation of Charles Dickens' famous tale 'A Christmas Carol'. BUT this is like no other version of that story you have ever seen. Set in 1950s Australia, a thoughtless and greedy factory owner exploits his workers- that is, until a visitor from his past reveals the down side of the path he has chosen.



Don't miss 'SCREWGE**'**

**Wednesday 25, Friday 27 &
Saturday 28 March 2015.**

Coming up in CAPA

Early in Term 4 we are holding an exhibition and sale of lino prints from Stage 5 Visual Arts students. The works have been based on machinery and inspired by our visit to Cockatoo Island earlier this year.

In addition, we have some beautiful single colour prints from year 7 students who based their work on plant life.



INVITATION TO.....
The Printsipple
exhibition opening
and sale of work

Thursday 16th October 2014
Keira High School Cafe
4.30-6pm
Left: 'Behind the Wheel' (detail) by Tanya Storey, year 9

A Lawrence
Head Teacher CAPA

Science Centre Physics Excursion

On Thursday 28 August, the Year 11 and 12 physics classes, including a couple extra eager learners, undertook an excursion at the Science Centre in Wollongong.

During our day at the innovation campus, we explored the various activities that involved fundamental physics principles that certainly expanded our understanding of the subject.

The campus' planetarium supplied comfortable seating and a wide angle projector for stunning recreations of the night sky from around the world.

It was a unique experience that offered Year 12 students a revision of the courses studied and preparation for future Year 12 physics students.

Next we attended a lecture on superconductors and the properties of liquid nitrogen.

It was an entertaining demonstration packed with explosions and levitation!

Students learned about the complications of liquid nitrogen storage and how a superconductor can levitate a magnet.

The principle demonstrated is termed the Meissner Effect. Magnetic fields are produced by a magnet and repulsed by a superconductor, rendering the magnet fixed in its position.

It was an amazing excursion full of scientific facts and visual entertainment.

Cankut Eker



Rhys Drummond, Michelle Efting and Dylan Maguire at the Science Centre



A supermagnet floating above a metal that has been supercooled with liquid Nitrogen.(The Meissner Effect)

Year 12

Multicultural Youth Day

The 2014 Illawarra Multicultural Youth Conference was held over two days on 1 and 2 September at Wollongong Youth Centre. Students from four local high schools (Figtree, Wollongong, Warrawong IEC and Keira) attended. The conference covered many areas of concern and interest for today's youth. Sessions included *Keeping Safe* run by NSW Police, *Healthy Relationships* run by Relationships Australia and *Communicating under Stress* run by STARTTS. These very important topics were buffered by activities such as soccer, art, dance and drumming.



Nadia Kazadi Yr.9 & NgaMeh Meh Yr.10

'*Communicating under Stress* was a good session because you learnt how to focus when you need it most. I also loved the dancing. Anyone could do it. Even if you didn't know how to dance, you could by the end.'

Nadia Kazadi Yr9



L-R Sae Reh, Jack Thongsa, Ti Reh, Ali Al-Shammary, Mohamed Altarah & Azeez Adil with Constable Pop



Sekou Bayo Yr.9

'*Healthy Relationships* was about talking with friends and being able to discuss things you are not happy with. We also had fun drumming making our own beats and rhythm. We all learnt new skills.'

Feruz Mengistu Yr10

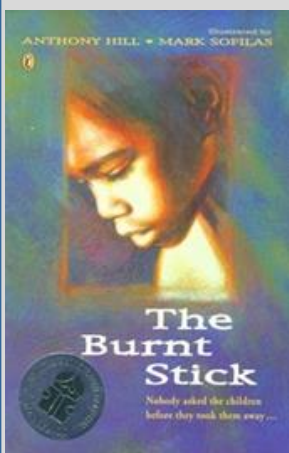
Library News

Our Local Director of Schools A Special Mystery Reader!



Ms Lowe reading 'The Burnt Stick'

Last Tuesday our class 8EH was invited to attend a very special event. Ms Lowe, Director of Schools for the Wollongong North region, dropped in to our school library to participate in the Mystery Reader program for Book Week. The book she chose to read was 'The



Burnt Stick' by Anthony Hill. It was a very emotional story and was about a young boy who was taken from his Aboriginal mother by government authorities because his skin was a lighter colour than the others. The mother had always taken good care of her boy and rubbed charcoal from a burnt stick on his skin to try and trick the authorities. It made us feel sad that children were

taken from their parents and even though this story wasn't a true story it was based on true events. Despite feeling sad we really enjoyed Ms Lowe's visit as a Mystery Reader!



Marko Kodor and 8EH

Book Week Highlights the Importance of Reading

Book Week was packed with activities to spread the message that reading is a very important and worthwhile activity. The theme this year was 'Connect to Reading' and the library showcased some amazing artwork created by Year 8 students from the CAPA faculty. They produced beautiful collages after reading the book "The Lost Thing" by Shaun Tan. An installation art project created from string, wool, rope and crepe paper continued the 'connective' theme.

Other activities included Random Acts of Reading, where classes dropped everything for a few minutes to enjoy the pleasures of reading, competitions, puzzles, a quiz and the Mystery Reader program. Book Week also saw the launch of the KHS Little Library, a library swap service now operating in the main quad by members of the Student Library Committee.



Marko Kodor Yr 8 with his book prize.

Congratulations to Marko Kodor, Yr 8, who won the raffle draw for borrowing a book to read for Book Week. The prize was a copy of the winning Book Week book 'The Rules of Summer' by Shaun Tan.



'Carofly' by Maria Micale Yr 8

Ms J Kay
Librarian

Central Australia Tour

While members of Keira High School prepare to embark on an exciting study tour of Japan in a few short weeks, another opportunity for students is just over the horizon.

In April 2016, 40 students who are currently in Year 7, 8 and 9 will have the option to visit Australia's unique and beautiful landscape. They will travel through New South Wales, Queensland, Northern Territory and South Australia.

Whilst camping for 16 days, learning many life skills and appreciating the rare wonders of this country, students will experience an underground mine at Mt Isa, visit Dubbo Zoo, climb Kings Canyon and be blown away by the glories of Uluru.

A Keira High School group embarked on this tour in 2013 which was a great success. This is a fabulous opportunity for Keira High and a life-changing adventure it is highly recommended to future students.

Rebecca Gonchee at Devil's Marbles



L Alexander
Mathematics Teacher/ Tour Coordinator

Japan Study Tour



The Japan Study Tour group of 2014 departed on Wednesday 17 September. The participating students are very excited about the trip.



While in Japan, the group will visit Hiroshima, famous for the first atomic bomb to be used in warfare, Kyoto, Japan's ancient imperial capital, and Tokyo, Japan's modern capital.

The students will be exposed to a wide variety of sights, sounds and smells and have many opportunities to use their Japanese language skills.



M Kahabka
Language Teacher/ Tour Coordinator

2014 South Coast Public Speaking Competition

On Tuesday 19 August Lachlan McFarland volunteered for the 2014 South Coast Public Speaking Competition. He joined over 150 students from our region, each of whom volunteered their time to speak on topics of interest to them. After his heat, Lachlan was individually congratulated by the adjudicator for having great presence and a powerful voice.



Lachlan McFarland and Mr. Steffen at the 2014 South Coast Public Speaking Competition.

Asked about his experience, Lachlan had this to say:

"A couple of weeks ago I attended the South Coast Public Speaking Competition at Holy Spirit College. It was a great experience and there were some amazing speakers. I spoke about how some companies say they are eco-friendly but they actually aren't. I learned how I can improve my public speaking for next time and the event really boosted my confidence."

I encourage interested students to see me about volunteering for next year's public speaking event.

R Steffen
English

Lamington Drive for Paediatric Unit

The lamington drive is now finished and through it WAVE FM raised a total of \$56345 for the Paediatric Physio Department! Congratulations to WAVE FM and thank you to everyone who bought Lamingtons.

S Wilcock
Careers

P and C Update

Research shows that children perform better when their parents are involved in their education.

There is a myth that once your child gets to high school you no longer need to be involved in their school community.

This is a myth because the pressures and stress on your children at school are generally higher than they were at primary school.

Joining the Keira High School P&C is one of the best ways to show your children how much you value their education and how interested you are in what they are doing at school.

By joining the P&C you are showing your children how committed to helping students and your school community.

It is also the best way to stay up to date with things that are happening within the school that have direct impact upon your children.

Demonstrating your interest in a strong school community is a great example that you can set for your kids.

Children can see that common goals can be achieved through the P & C and knowing that you their parent is willing to volunteer to help their school can be a great inspiration for your child.

To continue the great work, Keira High School P&C needs people from all walks of life and with a range of talents who are committed to delivering great outcomes for our children and school.

It was great to see so many visitors and their smiling faces at our August meeting.

Everybody has a role to play and your ideas will be heard.

The more people involved the more exciting and successful it will be.

Actions always speak louder than words when it comes to demonstrating to your children what you value, help your child's education by joining the P&C.

Scott Penning
P and C President

P&C Meeting

Wednesday 5 November 2014 at 7.30 pm

Further information will be communicated closer to the scheduled date.

WOW Program

The Corrimal East Public School P&C wishes to express appreciation for the efforts of the students at Keira High School who participated in the WOW program at Corrimal East Public School this year. The projects the students involved in the program dedicated themselves to have once again made a noticeable and beneficial impact on the school environment. The P&C is immensely grateful for this contribution.



Members of the school staff complimented the students who participated in the program on their impressive attitudes and effort. The P&C has written to the coordinator of the program to acknowledge the valuable contribution of the students.

Please extend our appreciation and compliments to the students from your school involved with the program

Yours faithfully

Lorelle Longbottom

P&C President Corrimal East Public School

End of Year Celebrations

With Schoolies and other end of year celebrations approaching this presents an opportunity to support parents in being able to reduce the alcohol related harm for young people.

Sometimes it's difficult for parents to talk to teenager about their feelings and expectations around alcohol or drug use. The Commonwealth government has produced a fact sheet for parents- Top 10 ways to encourage your kids to talk about drugs with you <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/drugs/publishing.nsf/content/parents2>

<http://www.drinkingnightmare.gov.au/internet/drinkingnightmare/publishing.nsf/Content/parents> to assist with these discussions. There are also FREE hard copies of Your guide to dealing with Teenagers and Alcohol or Your guide to dealing with Teenagers and Grog that are available. These can be ordered via <http://yourroom.com.au/parent-resources/>

The NSW Department of Education & Training (DET) has prepared a comprehensive document on young people, alcohol and celebrating, including young people going on holidays, going to parties and the supply of alcohol to minors. This document is also available in a vast number of languages other than English. NSW DET: Alcohol: Celebrations & Supply Youth safe has prepared Helping teenagers

celebrate safely for families hosting a party at home or for young people choosing to go out with friends, this fact sheet contains some important discussion points and planning tips to help keep them safe. If parents are planning a party at home, the safe party kit link may be useful

http://www.mynite.com.au/pdfs/Party_Tips_Pack.pdf

Parents may also be confused regarding whether or not it is best to provide alcohol to their children. Research indicates that for children who are supplied alcohol by their parents are three times more likely to drink full serves of alcohol by the time they are 16 their parents. The safest option to protect young people from alcohol related harm is to delay the initiation of alcohol until at least 18 years of age, <http://www.ncah.com.au/art/mental-health/aap/parents-supplying-teen-booze-raise-risks/109/>

Knowing legal responsibilities surrounding teens and alcohol use is sometimes difficult. Supplying alcohol to minors is illegal (unless they are your own child and under your supervision) and there are fines that apply. Penalties also apply for minors supplying other minors.

If we are able to be of further assistance, or you would like to discuss other ways that we are able to support your school community please do not hesitate to contact me

And Alcohol

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Tel 02 4223 8349 | Fax 02 4223 8344 |

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Health
Illawarra Shoalhaven
Local Health District

Sports News

With winter sport coming to a close we saw a large number of Grade teams make finals. Keira had 17 teams across a range of sports competing for that illustrious 1st place. Congratulations to all teams who made finals and especially the following teams, Junior Girls and Boys Indoor Soccer, Junior and Senior Boys' Basketball, Senior Boys Soccer and Junior Boys Volleyball that were victorious.

Summer sport has commenced with a number of new sports offered to students including circus at Circus Monoxide, handball and martial arts. All students should have selected their sport and be participating and enjoying the change.

K Vecanski

Sports Coordinator

Community News

KHS does not receive or accept any paid advertising for Community Notices. Also, we have no way of checking the bona fides of any information received. We encourage parents/caregivers to make all necessary checks prior to involving their children in activities listed.



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KIDS CAMPS

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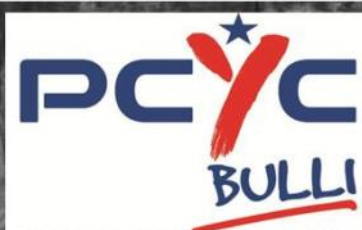
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 Office
of Sport
& Recreation

Basketball and Fitness School Holiday Activities



Basketball Training Days School Years 2 to Year 6

1. **Wednesday, 24 September 2014**
2. **Wednesday, 1 October 2014**

Fitness Day (boxing circuit, volleyball, dodge ball) Ages 7 to 14

Monday, 22 September 2014

10am to 2pm
BBQ lunch/drink provided
Bookings are essential.

Contact Bulli PCYC on:
Ph: 4284 3878
email: bulli@pcycnsw.org.au

Cost: \$20 per session

PCYC Membership applies to non-members (\$10)

Community News

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Become A Volunteer Host Family

Gain A Friend From Another Country!

World Education Program (WEP) is inviting Australian families to experience another culture within their own homes by becoming volunteer host families. Choose a student from Italy, Belgium, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands or South America and get a glimpse into the life of another culture without having to leave the comfort of your home! Imagine the look on your new brother's or sister's face as you introduce him/her to Vegemite for the first time. Our exchange students are just as excited about sharing their own culture and life experiences as they are about becoming a member of an Australian family.



Arriving in January:

Ilaria (17) from Italy tells us that she is incredibly fond of animals, and that if she had her own way, she would turn her house into a zoo! She enjoys drawing in her spare time, as well as travel. She believes that living so far away from home will help her broaden her mind, and she can't wait to live with a welcoming family.

Marco (17) from Italy is an animator at his local church group and enjoys playing both football and basketball with his friends. He also enjoys staying active by going to the gym for an hour or so after school. He is looking forward to sharing his Italian culture with you, and hopes you will share your culture with him here 'down-under'.

+ MANY MORE

Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family, including student profiles.

Sylvia Kelly Manager - Inbound Exchange Programs

Phone: 1300 884 733 Email: info@wep.org.au Online: www.wep.org.au



HAVE FUN, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, AND LEARN ABOUT ANOTHER CULTURE!

Volunteer to host an international high school student arriving into Australia in July 2014, and you'll be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July for their 3, 5, or 10 month programs from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Spain and Colombia. They will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money, and comprehensive insurance cover, all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. You choose the nationality, the gender, the duration and the interests of the student that you feel is the best match for your family.



Visit us at www.scce.com.au,

email scceaustr@scce.com.au

or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

Keira Updates



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

**FROM 1ST JULY LOWES
WOLLONGONG STORE
WILL BE STOCKING THE FULL
RANGE OF THE OFFICIAL
SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR**

KEIRA HIGH SCHOOL

**STOCK WILL NO LONGER
BE KEPT AT SCHOOL**

**5% OF ALL SCHOOLWEAR SALES WILL GO
BACK TO THE SCHOOL EACH YEAR**



EXTRA 5% OFF
WHEN YOU PURCHASE WITH YOUR
EZY-WAY CREDIT CARD ACCOUNT.

You can now make payments to Keira High School online

We have launched a new online payment portal linked to our website to make it easier for you to pay for school related payments. This is a secure payment page hosted by Westpac.

What expenses can be paid online?

Voluntary School Contributions
Subject Contributions
Excursions
Sport
Sales to Students
Other

How?

Log onto the Keira High School website at:
www.keira-h.schools.nsw.edu.au Click on "Make a Payment" and follow the prompts to make a payment via Visa or MasterCard.

Questions?

Please contact the school office on 4229 4644

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
Friday 19 September 2014	Last day of Term 3
Monday 6 October 2014	Public Holiday
Tuesday 7 October 2014	Term 4 Commences
Sunday 19 October 2014	P & C Bunnings BBQ
Friday 14 November 2014	Immunisations for Year 9 Boys and ALL of Year 7



P&C Meeting

Wednesday 5 November 2014 at 7.30 pm

Further information will be communicated closer to the scheduled date.